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June 7th.

Vice-President **Bridges** in the Chair.

Letters were read—

From the Royal Academy of Sciences of Naples, dated 25th August, 1852, accompanying donations of its Transactions, &c., announced this evening.

From Sig. Achille Costa, dated Naples, 20th Nov., 1852, transmitting the copies of his works announced this evening.

A paper by Prof. Haldeman, describing new species of Insects, with observations on described species, was presented, and referred to the following Committee: Dr. Le Conte, Dr. Leidy and Dr. Ruschenberger.

A paper was also presented from Mr. Chas. Girard, of Washington, entitled "Descriptions of new Nemerteans and Planarians from the Coast of the Carolinas." Referred to the same Committee.

Mr. Cassin presented a continuation of Dr. P. R. Hoy's paper on the Ornithology of Wisconsin, which was referred to the Committee on the previous portions of the paper.

June 14th.

Vice-President **Bridges** in the Chair.

Letters were read—

From Dr. G. Hartlaub, dated Bremen, 14th May, 1853, acknowledging the receipt of his notice of election as a Correspondent.

From J. W. Dawson, Esq., of Pictou, Nova Scotia, dated April 23d, 1853, accompanying the specimens of coal fossils from that country, presented this evening.

From the Corresponding Secretary of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, dated Boston, June 7th, 1853, transmitting part 1, vol. 5, of the Memoirs of that Institution, and requesting certain Nos. of the Proceedings of this Society.

From Dr. T. R. Beck, Secretary of the Trustees of the New York State Library, dated Albany, June 9th, 1853, acknowledging the receipt of the last No. of the Proceedings.

Dr. Leidy read an interesting letter from Mr. Isaac Lea, dated Vienna, May, 1853, and enclosing a communication, designed for publication in the Proceedings, entitled, "Notice of the Mya nodulosa, Wood, by Isaac Lea." The latter was referred to Dr. Leidy, Dr. Pickering and Major Le Conte.

June 21st.

Vice-President **Bridges** in the Chair.

Letters were read—

From the Royal Academy of Sciences of Brussels, dated 16th June, 1852, acknowledging the receipt of the Journal, part 2, vol. 2, new series.

From the Wurtemberg Society of Natural Sciences, dated March 8th, 1853, acknowledging the receipt of late Nos. of the Proceedings.

From the American Philosophical Society, dated June 21, 1853, also acknowledging the receipt of the last No. of the Proceedings.

A paper was presented from Prof. Baird and Mr. Chas. Girard, intended for publication in the Proceedings, entitled " Descriptions of some new Fishes from the River Zuni." Referred to Mr. Cassin, Dr. Henderson and Dr. Le Conte.

Mr. Cassin presented a " Catalogue of the Hirundinidæ in the Collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences," intended for publication, which was referred to Dr. Wilson, Dr. Le Conte and Mr. Phillips.

Mr. Cassin presented a second paper for publication in the Proceedings, describing new species of Swallows and Parrots in the Collection of the Academy. Referred to same Committee.

Major Le Conte exhibited a single valve of Dipsas plicatus, in which the shell had been opened, and small images of lead inserted, which the animal had covered with nacre, forming artificial pearls.

Dr. Le Conte made some remarks on the specimens of Scalops in the Collection of the Academy, and pointed out the want of uniformity in the generic characters separating that genus from Talpa.

In many of our species the number of teeth is the same as in Talpa europæa, the only differences being in the size of the first and fourth teeth; the latter of which is much elongated in the European mole, while in ours it is either of the same size or scarcely perceptibly larger than the adjacent teeth.

In Scalops aquaticus alone does the dentition show any decided modification; the teeth are here only 36 in number; their form and situation are already well known, and are described in all systematic works; the anterior upper tooth is enlarged, as in the other American moles, but to a still greater extent. The hind feet are also webbed, almost to the root of the nail, while in the others the toes are separated as in Talpa.

The form of the snout is also mentioned among the generic differences. In Talpa the snout is broad and depressed and the nostrils are terminal. In Scalops aquaticus, the snout is moderately depressed and the nostrils superior. In S. Townsendii and æneus, the snout is much elongated, slender, and the nostrils are superior. In S. Breweri, the snout has the same slender form as in the two last mentioned, but the nostrils are entirely lateral.

In view of the unsatisfactory nature of these differences, Dr. Le Conte believes that it is better to suppress the genus Scalops, and place all the species under Talpa, than still farther to subdivide the group into genera. Talpa may then be divided into three groups:

1. Dentes 44, 4to superiore et 5to inferioribus maiore; rostrum latum depressum, naribus terminalibus; pedes postici non palmati.

To this group belong Talpa europæa and T. cœca, both European; and differing in the size of the incisor teeth, the middle of which are larger than the lateral ones in T. cœca, while all are equal in T. europæa.

There is in the Academy a specimen labelled " Scalops Breweri," which belongs to this division, and by description approaches to Talpa cœca, in the increased size of the middle incisors. In comparison with T. europæa, besides the difference in the incisors, the four small teeth following the long canine-like teeth of the upper jaw, show great differences. In the one under consideration, the three anterior ones are equal and very small, and the fourth is larger and simply compressed, not lobed, though declivous posteriorly. In the lower jaw, the enlarged canine-like 5th tooth is followed by *four* small simple and equal teeth; then follow the ordinary cuspidate teeth, which present no appreciable differences. In color the specimen precisely resembles Talpa europæa; the hair of the tail is, however, entirely black.

Nose to root of tail	4·8 inches.
Tail	·8 "

Locality unknown. For this new species the name T. reposta is proposed.

2. Dentes 44, incisivis mediis superioribus magnis, dente 4to superiore vix elongato: rostrum elongatum, gracile naribus vel lateralibus, vel supernis; pedes postici non palmati.

Of the *seven* teeth following the enlarged incisors of the upper jaw, the three first are pointed, conical, and increase gradually in size; the three next are small, very slightly compressed, and also increase a little in size; the 7th is triangular, moderately large, and has a small antero-internal cusp, which is larger in T. Breweri than in the other species, which seem to differ principally in color. The following table will express the relations:

Nares laterales.	
Cinereo-nigra, cauda longa, valde pilosa . . .	Breweri.
Nares superni, cauda brevi parce pilosa.	
Æneo brunea ungues antici nigri	ænea.*
Concolor, (fusco-nigra) pedibus solis pallidioribus .	Townsendii.
Cinereo-nigra, pedibus pallidis, fronte vittaque inferna albis	tæniata.

The singularly marked specimens referred by Dr. Bachman (Jour. Acad. 8, 58, and Bost. Journ. Nat. Hist. 4, 31,) as varieties of Scalops Townsendii, and afterwards (Quadr. of America, pl. 145,) erroneously figured by Mr. Audubon as the type, seem to present sufficient characters to rank as a distinct species. The third tooth of the upper jaw following the large incisor is more elongated than in the true Talpa Townsendii: the posterior cusps of the 7th and 8th lower teeth, although distinct, are smaller than in T. Townsendii, and there is no distinct internal basal margin connected with the cusp. I have, therefore, separated it as distinct under the name Talpa læniata.

3. Dentes 36, primo superiore, 2do inferiore magnis, rostrum subdepressum, naribus supernis; pedes postici palmati.

This group contains the typical Scalops aquaticus, and probably also S. latimanus Bachman, (Bost. Journ. 4, 34), which differs by its coarser and slightly curled hair, and larger anterior feet. A specimen in the Academy differs from S. aquaticus in being much larger (equal in size to Talpa Europæa,) and in having much larger anterior feet: the hair is, however, soft and lustrous, as in T. aquatica; the color is uniform yellowish brown at tip, dark cinereous at base; feet and tail pale; the latter is short and naked. This appears to be the yellow mole of Pennant, (Synops. Quadrupeds, p. 312,) described from a specimen without teeth, and referred, on account of its size, to T. europæa. The dentition of our specimen shows no difference worthy of notice. This species should be called Talpa Pennantii.

Unknown in recent times is Talpa cupreata Raf. (Precis des découvertes et travaux Somiologiques, Palerme, 1814, page 14.) The description is as follows:

"Queue le septieme de la longueur, totale brun luisant argenté, a reflets cuivrés et pourprés, gorge légérement roussâtre, museau couleur de chair et nu, pieds concolors.—Obs. De l'Amér. septentrionale."

Probably identical with this species is the black and shining purple mole from Virginia described by Seba, p. 51, plate 32, and the purple species described by Dr. T. W. Harris, in the New England Farmer.

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* *Scalops æneus* Cassin, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sc. 6, 299.

ERRATA IN VOL. VI.

Page 2, line 4 from bottom, for *of* read *and*.
“ 3, “ 13 “ top, for *Cretacean* read *Cetacean*.
“ 33, “ 13 and 20 from bottom, for *Nipongue* read *Mpongue*.
“ 36, “ 26 from top, for *undeniable* read *undeniably*.
“ 40, “ 19 “ bottom, for *interstialis* read *interstitialis*.
“ 45, “ 5 “ top, for *thorace* read *thorax*.
“ 46, “ 18 “ bottom, for *simplicibus* read *fulcrantibus*.
“ 48, in division (*b*) of Eucnemis, for *serratæ* read *pectinatæ*.
“ 66, “ 10 from top, for *is* read *are*.
“ 114, “ 2 “ bottom, for *fulvis* read *fulvus*.
“ 141, “ 9 “ bottom, for *generus* read *genus*.
“ 149, in note (†) for *fr* read *für*.
“ 150, the three lines of the diagnosis of Cephennium corporosum have lost the initial letters: to the first add 1, to the second *pl*, to the third *a*.
“ 171, line 2 from bottom, for *Africa* read *America*.
“ 174, “ 22 “ top, for *inferior* read *anterior*.
“ 180, for *Homolosaurus* read *Homalosaurus*.
“ 181, for *Pituophis* read *Pityophis*.
“ 229, line 21 from top, for *Anchytursus* read *Anchytarsus*.
“ “ “ 40 “ top, for *picea* read *brunneus*.
“ 231, after Tostegoptera, for *Edwards* read *Blanchard*.
“ 241, line 15 from top, for *Enbradys* read *Eubradys*.
“ 302, line 13 from top, for 1859 read 1849.
“ 327, “ 31 “ top, for *læniata* read *tæniata*.
“ 329, “ 22 “ top, for *parvus* read *parvulus*, vide p. 414.
“ “ “ 26 “ top, for *Fern* read *Kern*.
“ 337, “ 31 “ top, for *Fauna* read *Faunas*.
“ 368, “ 12 “ top, for *Traünfeld* read *Fraünfeld*.
“ “ “ 29 “ top, for *truncates* read *truncatus*.
“ 377, top line, for —— read *and*.
“ 376, line 17 from bottom, for *Prisidon* read *Prisodon*.
“ 403, “ 2 “ bottom, for *Lyceum* read *State Library*.
“ 439, “ 17 “ bottom, for *Agryppus* read *Agrypnus*.
“ 454, “ 9 “ bottom, for *Endomochydæ* read *Endomychidæ*.
“ lxviii, line 22 from bottom, add *Mr. T. A. Conrad*.
“ lxxiv, line 17 from top, for *Vorselemque* read *Vorlesungen*.

The following omissions of donations to the Library, August 10th, 1852, occurred at page xxxiii:

Description of a Skeleton of the Mastodon giganteus, of North America. By John C. Warren, M. D. 4to. From the Author.

Exploration and Survey of the Valley of the Great Salt Lake of Utah. By Howard Stansbury, Capt. U. S. Topograph. Eng. 8vo. and map. From Col. J. J. Abert.

Experimental Researches in Electricity, 29th series. By Michael Faraday, Esq. From the Author.

On the Physical Character of the Lines of Magnetic Force. By Michael Faraday, Esq. From the Author.

Zoology of the Great Salt Lake of Utah, (extracted from Capt. Stansbury's Report.) From Prof. S. F. Baird.

Geognostische Wanderungen im Gebiete der nordöstlichen Alpen. Von Carl Ehrlich. From the Author.

Ueber die nordöstlichen Alpen. Von Carl Ehrlich. From the Author.